

Cracklin' Static

OCTOBER 2019 Edition



Breakfast Meeting: Sat, October 5th

Boomtown Casino Hotel
Events Center
I-80 at Exit 4 in Verdi

Breakfast Buffet – 7:30am - \$12
General Meeting – 8:00am

Don Sherman is doing a presentation on WTWW and Shawn KG7VUI will discuss the two upcoming youth events for October.

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesday 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury –as of September 28

Operating	\$6,222
Savings	\$8,941
Self Insurance	\$6,248
Convention	\$3,727
PayPal	\$2,177

Total **\$27,314**

SNARS Membership – ending 9-30-19

SNARS Members total 366

General	105	29%
Extra	134	37%
Technician	110	30%
Advanced	14	4%
No License	3	1%

ARRL Members 239 65%

President's Voice

President John Byerly, N7ROJ

Email: mtnlion@gmail.com



Hello everyone! I hope you have had a good month, and everyone is getting ready for fall and the coming of winter.

This month begins our board member election process, and as you voted in last year, the first time our club will be using electronic voting. We have selected a service that has been used by many different organizations with excellent results. I must ask you to ensure your email address is correct on the club roster so you get your link to vote.

Thank you so much for being members of the best amateur radio club!

See you at the meeting!

John/N7ROJ





PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family
775.453.4142 <http://snars.org>

2019 Officers

President.....John Byerly, N7ROJ
Vice-President.....Jim Shepherd, W6US
Treasurer.....Bill Jones, AE7OX
Secretary.....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
DirectorWes Vick, KG7QXE
DirectorJohn Miller N7JDM
DirectorBarry Bettman, K6ST

2019 Staff

Cracklin Static..... Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
W7TA Trustee Peter DeBay, KE7VSR
KR7ENO Trustee Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
Control Operator Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Historian Jon Fox, KF7KTC
Tech Team Lead Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Membership..... Kim Farnham, KG7TMA
PIO Greg Krantz, NT7Q
VE Coordinator..... Bill Nichols, NN7K
Meeting Greeter..... Bill Jones, AE7OX
Noon Net Manager..... Wes Vick, KG7QXE
DMR Net Manager Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Reno Ham Swap Vacant
Webmaster Erik Andreasen, K6CZH
Club Sales Manager.....Julie Dodge, N7JWL
Recording Secretary.....Doug Edmondo, W7DBE

Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden **WB2AWQ** - holden7471@msn.com
Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 - PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 - PL 123.0	Winnemucca	Online
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	Offline

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Offline

Fusion Systems

146.610 - PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Online

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online

 Online  Offline  Not Linked

Thank you to our Sponsors/Supporters



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
 147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
 147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
 444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
 146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
 146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
 147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday at 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newslane	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm
Nevada State ARES Net	Thursday - 7:00PM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Week Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays
8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

Ham Radio Night at the REOC Wednesday, October 7th,
6 PM Washoe REOC 5195 Spectrum Blvd, Reno NV

SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday October 9, 6 PM
Chin-Chin 222 Los Altos Pkwy, Sparks NV

Nevada QSO Party 8 PM Friday, October 11 to 2PM Sunday
October 13. See: [HTTP://nvqso.com](http://nvqso.com) for details!

Scouts Camporall Fort Churchill State Park October 11-13
In conjunction with NV QSO Party See page 9

Scouts Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) October 18-20
See page 9

SNARS VE Exams Saturday October 19, 9 AM to 12 NOON
Washoe Regional Emergency Operations Center
5195 Spectrum Blvd, Reno. See <https://snars.org/exams/>
For details.

Reno QRP Monthly Meeting October 21, 11:30am – 12:30pm
Alamo Casino Truck Stop in Sparks Contact WB6JAD for info

Next SNARS Breakfast Meeting – Saturday November 2, 8 AM
Boomtown Casino Hotel Events Center I-80 at Exit 4 Verdi

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

September, 2019

Joy	Franson	AG6WM
Keith	Franson	W7KRF
Todd	Hanly	SWL
Steve	Schefer	KJ7IXW
David	Thompson	AG7TX
Robert	Weeldreyer	AG7WS

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US nvjims@gmail.com

FALL CONTESTS COMING UP

The Fall contest season has kicked off! Saturday is the club meeting, and starting at 0900 at the end of our meeting is the California QSO party. There are 58 counties in our neighbor to the west, and as of this morning all except 2 are covered, and those two have lots of hams living there. All of the 'rare' counties are covered with expeditions! For more information go to <http://www.cqp.org/index.html>

The following weekend is the premier event of the contest year—the **Nevada QSO Party!!!** Currently only 3 of the 17 counties have confirmed operations, and we need to get several in all of the counties. Especially needed are CW and Digital operators, but even VHF/UHF/repeater operators need to be out in all the areas. Operation within 500' of a county line will allow you to make 2 or more contacts with one QSO. I do know of way more interest than has signed up, and we sent out contest information and are listed in both the QST and CQ contest lists, so there will be plenty of out-of-state hams to talk to...

There are several changes this year. All stations can work all of the multipliers on a per band basis. For in-state stations that means that you can work Utah stations on 160m to VHF for a total of 7 multipliers! (All of the VHF/UHF bands count as only one band) Out-of-state stations can work each Nevada county for the same 7 multipliers. Another change is that we will be using the 83 ARRL/RAC sections for in-state multipliers. Remember, CA is not a multiplier, but LAX, Los Angeles Section, is one, as are the other 8 sections in California. We will also be using the signal report instead of a serial number, and the contest convention of 59 or 599 reports will be standard.

Due to these changes, you will have to get the latest version of N1MM Logger to use as your logging program for this contest. It is a free download at <http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php?page=Full+Install> and if you plan on using FT8 or FT4, you will need the latest version of the WSJT-X software at <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjt.html>.

The biggest change this year is we are allowing the use of these WSJT modes. There are several things that you will need to do in order to be able to log these weak signal contacts. It will involve closing your N1MM logging program, full exit, not just minimizing it, and then starting the stand-alone WSJT-X program in 'contest' mode using the Field Day overlay. Before the contest, you must clear the Cabrillo log, and set up the 'field day' exchange with "xA NV" where x is the county number you

are operating from like 3A for Clark County or 16A for Washoe.

Out-of-State testers will use "1A <section abbreviation>" — The list of abbreviations is available at <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20-%20General/ARRL-Sections-List-2012.pdf>. At the end of the contest, you will need to save that Cabrillo log with the name "WSJT_<callsign>.cbl" and send it in with your N1MM log which will be named "<callsign>.log". Using the FT8 window in N1MM will not correctly log the contacts and you will not get credit for the QSO. On the air you will look for stations calling "CQ FD <callsign> <grid>" or ones replacing the FD with NV. You can log the other digital modes like RTTY and PSK31 using the N1MM with its digital MMTTY or FLDIGI add ins.

The weather is usually good this time of the year, at it is a good opportunity to get out and operate in some of the rural counties. Last year the top 4 counties were, in descending order, Pershing, Lyon, Storey and Washoe. Esmeralda, Eureka and Mineral counties were not activated.... Come on folks, there are some beautiful free campsites along Walker Lake with a chance to see some Nevada Bighorn Sheep while you are operating in Mineral County. Esmeralda and Eureka counties also have some great scenery. Other counties had a very limited turnout including Elko, Humboldt and White Pine. This is OUR contest and we need to have folks on the air and turn in logs. Both Nevada and most of our counties are wanted for awards by hams worldwide. Even if you only get on for a couple of hours, it all helps!

We, here in Nevada, will be the rare DX and this will be a good opportunity to practice your 'pile-up' skills. The complete rules, activation sheet, and FAQs are at <http://nvqso.com/>.

Concurrent with our contest, there are QSO parties in South Dakota, Arizona and Pennsylvania. Contact the Pennsylvania contest at <http://pagso.org/index.html>, the Arizona group at <https://www.azqsoparty.org/>, and South Dakota at <http://www.sdqsoparty.com/> for their rules and information.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The ARRL, in it's Contest Corral listing, did not include digital in the NV QSO party, but digital is certainly a part! See <http://nvqso.com/> .)

The third weekend in October is Pacificon, along with a VE session here at the REOC... This will let you upgrade to really participate in the rest of the major HF contests this fall.

(Continued on page 11)

SNARS LOGO ITEMS

This year we are celebrating our 50th year by providing many ways to commemorate this occasion by imprinted our 50th



Stickers \$1.00 Each



16oz Coffee Mugs \$8.00



Hats \$10.00



Club Badge \$15.00

Order at
<http://snars.org/store/badge-order>

Items are available at the monthly meetings, events or online (coming soon) <http://snars.org/store>



MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER FORTY SEVEN

Mike Katz, N7MSK

SPECIAL EVENT CALL SIGN SYSTEM.

The call sign is *selected by the station licensee from a list of call signs shown on a common data base coordinated, maintained and disseminated* by the amateur station special event call sign data base coordinators. The call sign must have the single letter prefix K, N or W, followed by a single numeral 0 through 9, followed by a single letter A through W or Y or Z (for example K1A). The special event call sign is substituted for the call sign shown on the station license grant while the station is transmitting. The FCC will issue public announcements detailing the procedures of the special event call sign system.

Section 97.119 (d) is amended to read as follows:

(d) When transmitting in conjunction with an event of special significance, a station may substitute for its assigned call sign a special event call sign as shown for that station for that period of time on the common data base coordinated, maintained and disseminated by the special event call sign data base coordinators. Additionally, the station must transmit its assigned call sign at least once per hour during such transmissions. *(Editor's note: I KNOW we did not do this at the NV150 event in Carson, shame on us! Something to keep in mind for the next special event....)*

A club or special event 1X1 call sign does not convey any operating privileges. Also, the license class of the trustee is immaterial in these cases. It all comes down to the license held by the control operator at that moment. If the control operator is a technician, then the station may only be operated on the technician class frequencies. To operate on Extra Class frequencies, there must be an Extra Class licensee present at the control point of the radio.

NAME THAT RIG

(Answer on page 14)

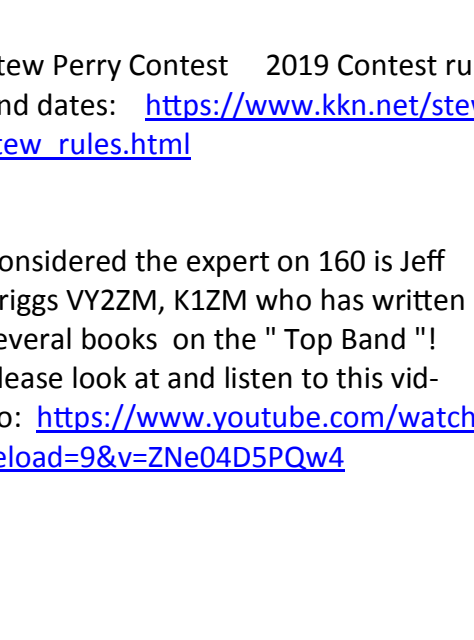


W7SSB's FUN STUFF

TOP BAND

For those of you that don't know we are going into the season of "Top Band" 160 meters!
This band can be a disease to some of us! <https://www.kkn.net/n6tr/tbdisease.html> Please read!

The band is a challenge and many families have suffered because of it! Please read about the "King" of top band
W1BB Stew Perry! Great reading! From 73 Magazine



The biggest challenge for most hams on this band is antennas! It helps to have some real estate, the more the better! Please look at some antenna ideas for operating on 160! <https://topbandhams.com/tech-page/6-22-different-wire-antennas-for-the-160-meter-band> You can have a lot of fun on 160 and it can be frustrating at best! Try it you may like it!

Stay tuned till next month ! Don W7SSB

FUN STUFF FOR OCTOBER

Some of the better October contests are listed below. Those in **BOLD** are ARRL or NCJ sponsored, and may qualify for the Gavel Award. See <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2019/October%202019%20Corral.pdf> for a complete list of contests. The one in **REALLY BIG bold** is us.....

5 Oct 1600 to 6 Oct 2200 1.8-28 California QSO Party CW Ph www.cqp.org

12 Oct 0300 to 13 Oct 2100 1.8-UHF Nevada QSO Party CW Ph Dig nvqso.com

12 Oct 1600 to 13 Oct 2359 1.8-144 Arizona QSO Party CW Ph Dig www.azqsoparty.org

19 Oct 0000 to 20 Oct 2359 50-1296 ARRL EME Contest CW Ph Dig www.arrl.org/eme-contest

19 Oct 0001 to 20 Oct 2359 28 10-10 International Fall Contest, CW www.ten-ten.org

19 Oct 1500 to 20 Oct 1500 1.8 Stew Perry Topband Challenge CW www.kkn.net/stew

21 Oct 1300 to 25 Oct 2359 All ARRL School Club Roundup CW Ph Dig www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup

26 Oct 0000 to 27 Oct 2359 1.8-28 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB www.cqww.com

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase! October's good stuff is scattered around the globe. No less than 8 that I've listed are in Africa or very close. Some of the better DX operations coming up in October:

Sep 29 to Oct 05 **Tanzania 5H3MB**

Sep 29 to Oct 06 **Malta 9H3GK**

Sep 29 to Oct 13 **Cape Verde Is D44TWO**

Sep 30 to Oct 11 **Liberia A82X**

Oct 01 to Oct 19 **Lesotho 7P8AO**

Oct 01 to Oct 11 **Canary Is EA8**

Oct 01 to Dec 15 **Gabon TR8CR**

Oct 02 to Oct 09 **Vietnam XV9DXB**

Oct 03 to Oct 10 **Vanuatu YJ0BCP**

Oct 03 to Oct 13 **Cyprus 5B**

Oct 07 to Oct 23 **West Kiribati T30GC**

Oct 08 to Nov 04 **Norfolk I VK9N**

Oct 15 to Oct 30 **San Andres & Providencia 5K0K**

Oct 15 to Nov 03 **Mayotte FH DJ7RJ**

Oct 18 to Nov 01 **Pitcairn I VP6R**

Oct 19 to Oct 31 **Lakshadweep Is VU7RI**

Oct 20 to Nov 01 **Comoros D68CCC**

There's lots more too! Check out: <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

TECH COMMITTEE UPDATE



SNARS REPEATER STATUS - As of September 2019

MT ROSE - Mt Rose is home to the 147.150 repeater and appears to be functioning normally. We have not made it to the site yet this year, but Dave Metts has been doing a lot of work up there cleaning up and removing some of the loose grating and other loose sheet metal that gets rectified with RF currents and causes much of the broadband noise that impacts signal to noise performance, particularly on VHF. The old repeater and remote base equipment rack is graciously being brought by Dave to make room for other users and clean up the site. A trip to the site is still on the schedule to perform preventative maintenance and prepare for winter.

OPHIR - The tower at Ophir, that holds the 146.610 repeater antenna, still has a broken guy wire and needs to be repaired. This should get done before winter. The 443.075 and 147.390 repeaters appear to be functioning normally.

MT DAVIDSON - This site still needs a lot of attention. The biggest issue is the building needs some repairs and modifications to prevent rodent infestation! Davidson is home to our 444.825 DMR repeater, 927.0875 repeater, and 224.500 repeater. It also hosts the NARRI 444.625 and 145.175 DSTAR repeaters.

VIRGINIA PEAK - There has been some reported problems with the link from Virginia Peak to Peavine. This was a result of the

(Continued on page 11.....)

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

During the month of October, we have several upcoming events:

October 12th

Boy Scout Camporall (at Fort Churchill State Park in conjunction with the Nevada QSO Party nvqso.com)

On Saturday October 12, at the Boy Scouts Nevada Area Council's Regional Fall Camporall & Rendezvous – West, we are looking to have a Ham Radio station for scouts to visit and engage in radio communications both phone and code. The Camporall will have check in starting at 5:00 pm and ends at Noon on October 13. Saturday is the main day of activities and is taking place at the same time as the Nevada QSO party nvqso.com. This would be a great opportunity for hams to engage with many youths in the field.

When: October 11-13, 2019

Check-in begins at 5:00pm, October 11 - Event Ends 12:00 Noon, October 13

Friday Night Campfire (Hosted by Camporall Staff) 7:00 pm

Saturday Night Campfire (Hosted by Tannu Lodge OA) 7:00 pm

Where: Scout Camp @ Fort Churchill State Park. Visit

www.nevadabsa.org for a map to the

location Latitude: 39°17'01" N

Longitude: 119°13'53" W

This will be a rustic site with limited shade and all campers will need to bring potable water.

Looking for a few hams willing to provide a field day like setup for this event.

For more information please contact Shawn Stoddard (KG7VUI) at sstoddard1@gmail.com or cell 775-848-8018.

SCOUT JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

62nd JOTA: October 18-20, 2019

Jamboree on the Air provides the opportunity for millions of Scouts around the world to meet on the air via Amateur Radio. Get ready for the 62nd annual on-the-air event! <http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

October 19th 1p-4p + setup & teardown

Jamboree on the Air in-person event at High Desert Montessori School, Reno, NV

Volunteer Signup Jamboree on the Air (event in Reno)

Here's an invitation from Casey Stoddard for ham radio operators to help out:

I am Casey Stoddard and for my Girl Scout Gold Award project, I am organizing a JOTA event at High Desert Montessori School.

Each year more than a million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). JOTA-JOTI is the world's largest digital event taking place online and over the air. The educational event brings together more than 2.5 million youth from around the world every year in October for a weekend of Scouting and friendship.

Our event will be at High Desert Montessori School, 2590 Orovida St, Reno, NV 89512. The event will run from 1 to 4 pm as part of the school's fall festival. We plan to start setting up at 11:00 am and have clean up from 4:00 to 5:00 pm.

We are looking to provide 4 or 5 different types of Radio stations to communicate with youths regionally, nationally, and possibly make international contact.

For more information on JOTA <https://www.jotajoti.info/>

For a copy my flyer: [https://drive.google.com/open?](https://drive.google.com/open?id=12Yq540mqu5PK5hnhIT29j4ij7b30dub)

[id=12Yq540mqu5PK5hnhIT29j4ij7b30dub](https://drive.google.com/open?id=12Yq540mqu5PK5hnhIT29j4ij7b30dub)

Please fill out this form if you would like to volunteer. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdswN97YbnhICkf0cYtUuKpU7DcMD1SPyNUYgOkuKq9frDDsg/viewform>

I will be starting to contact volunteers to organize the final details for the event.

Thank you for volunteering to help.

Casey Stoddard snarsyouthprg@gmail.com

73,

Barry K6ST

Nevada Section Youth Coordinator

ARRL (American Radio Relay League) arrl.org

The national association for amateur radio



Each year more than a million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). JOTA-JOTI is the world's largest digital event taking place online and over the air. The educational event brings together more than 2.5 million youth from around the world every year in October for a weekend of Scouting and friendship.

Young people can learn about communications, technology, and connect with youth from over 170 countries.



Join us on **October 19, 2019 at 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** for Jamboree on the Air and learn about Amateur Radio (Ham) for kids. Hosted by our friends at:



High Desert Montessori

2590 Orovada St, Reno NV 89512.
between Silverada Blvd and El Rancho Dr.

Come and talk to kids across the country and around the world using radios, computers connected to radios, and the internet. Learn about how ham radio operators serve our community and enable communications during emergencies.

Kids of any age can get a license to operate a ham radio.

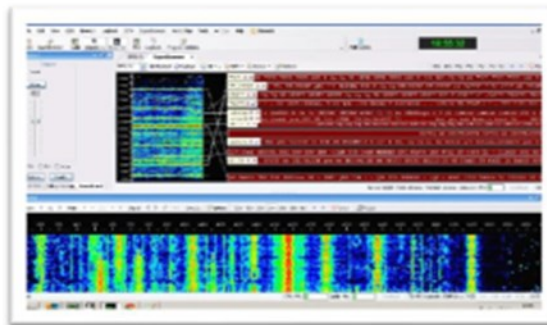


- **Operate a radio and talk to kids in other states or countries.**
- **Try your hand at Morse Code.**
- **Use a computer to send messages by radio.**
- **Use a handheld radio to talk long ranges.**



- **Check out the local emergency communication truck that supports local events.**

For questions or more information please send email to snarsyouthprg@gmail.com.



SHORT TAKES

HAM RADIO NIGHT, OCTOBER 2, 2019

We will have a discussion about diagnosing common problems with repeater operation. There may be some DMR programming help available at that time.

CONTEST CALENDAR

Some interesting contests are popping up in October. The big ones are discussed in 'The Name of the Game' this month. Of special

interest is the **Nevada QSO Party**, October 11-13. The rules and other information is at <http://nvqso.com/>. This is OUR contest, sponsored by the club, and we need everybody to get on the air!!! There are dozens more this month and you can get more information at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

DX

There are some interesting ones on the air at this time. <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> has a good list!

FALL CONTESTS COMING UP

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

The 4th weekend is the CQ WW SSB contest. This is an excellent opportunity to work lots of DX. Even if you only want to pick up a few new countries toward your DXCC, this is a great contest.

If you do make some contacts, be sure to send in a log and list Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society as your club!!! More information can be had at http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_ww_dx_contest/index_cq_ww_dx_contest.html.

First weekend in November brings the CW portion of the ARRL Sweepstakes. Two weeks later is the SSB portion of the contest. The idea of these contests is to work all 83 of the ARRL sections in the US and all the Canadian sections for a total of 83 multipliers. Working all is a 'clean sweep'. For more information go to <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>.

Besides these major contests, there are dozens of smaller events. There is an excellent contest calendar by WA7BNM that has virtually every contest and links to their rules. <http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>.

Take the opportunity to try one or more of these contests! They are a lot of fun and a good way to put a lot of contacts in the log...

TECH COMMITTEE UPDATE

(continued from page 8)

420 link transmitter only putting out 100mw. Most of the time the link works fine, but occasionally, there are some atmospheric conditions that occur that cause more attenuation on the path and less signal is received on the link radio at Peavine. A replacement PA is ready to be installed that will increase the transmitter power to 5 watts, which should alleviate the noisy link problem. The 147.030 repeater still needs to get a tune-up before we go into winter.

PEAVINE – Installation of the antenna for the "long awaited" 444.125 repeater is still waiting for Dave Metts to identify the mounting location. There is also a VHF Mastr III repeater ready to take the place of the old Mastr II that is currently the 147.210 repeater. The UHF links to Mt. Rose and Virginia Peak are functioning normally. The lower Peavine site on Verdi Ridge had a broken guy wire that was replaced.

TOULON PEAK – Toulon Peak is home to the 146.925 repeater and UHF link that connects to Virginia Peak and Winnemucca Mountain. Toulon is functioning but should get a PM before winter.

WINNEMUCCA MTN – The 147.670 repeater on Winnemucca Mountain is linked to Toulon Peak on a UHF link and seems to be functioning ok. The link antenna at Winnemucca Mountain does need to be relocated off of the tower it's currently on, and over to the telephone pole that holds the repeater antenna. The status of the link to the Elko system is still unknown at this time; last known, the Elko Group was working on some problems they were experiencing with some of their links.

LOBDELLE PEAK – 444.875 south of Yerington appears to be functioning normally after experiencing a lightning strike earlier in the summer that caused a shorted PTT output on the link port in the controller. This caused the 420 transmitter to be keyed down continuously for over a week! Moving the link radio to the third port on the controller resolved the problem. The 145.050 YRGTN packet node had a new TNC installed last fall, but appears to not be functioning correctly; it has been removed to figure out what the issue is; it's believed to be a configuration problem.

GSR – The 147.300 repeater on Grand Sierra is functioning as a standalone repeater. The IRLP node is still pending installation.

DMR SITES – The tech committee is unaware of any issues with any of the DMR repeaters. I would encourage those who have DMR capability to participate in the nets that occur on the SNARS talk group. Check SNARS.org for more information on these nets. If there are any questions regarding any of the sites, feel free to contact me at w7ded@sbcglobal.net.

73,

Pat, W7DED



ARES NEWS

This frequency chart is what we use from the National Weather Service when NWS activates SKYWARN. With our severe thunderstorms these are the frequencies we will use. There is a SKYWARN Class scheduled for Friday at NVCON.



WCARES®



COUNTY	MEMORY	REPEATER	PL	NOTES:
Alpine, Ca	13	147.330	123.0	Leviathan, Minden, Carson, Alpine Co
	4	146.940	123.0	Snow Valley Pk Covers S&E Reno, Washoe, Carson, Minden, and Whole Lake Tahoe
	10	147.240	100.0	Heavenly Valley Heavenly Vly, Most Lake, into Sacramento
	11	147.270	123.0	McClellan Pk Covers Carson, Douglas, Dayton, Silver Springs
	2	146.865	123.0	Leviathan Covers Alpine and Douglas
Churchill	7	147.150	123.0	Mt Rose Covers S Reno, Washoe, Carson, Douglas, S&W Lake Tahoe
	9	147.210	100.0	Peavine Pk
	6	147.030	123.0	Virginia Pk Mt Rose System
	8	147.180	107.2	Virginia Pk Covers Reno, Spanish Springs, Churchill Co, Gerlach, Black Rock, Susanville (scratchy)
	5	146.970	100.0	Eagle Covers Silver Springs and Fallon
Carson City	1	146.610	123	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
	4	146.940	123	Snow Valley Pk Covers S&E Reno, Washoe, Carson, Minden, and Whole Lake Tahoe
	14	147.390	123.0	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
	11	147.270	123.0	McClellan Pk Covers Carson, Douglas, Dayton, Silver Springs
Douglas	13	147.330	123.0	Leviathan Pk, Minden, Carson, Alpine Co
	11	147.270	123.0	McClellan Pk Covers Carson, Douglas, Dayton, Silver Springs
	10	147.240	123.0	Heavenly Valley Pk Heavenly Vly, Most Lake, into Sacramento
	2	146.865	123.0	Leviathan Covers Alpine and Douglas
Eldorado, Ca	10	147.240	123.0	Heavenly Valley Pk Heavenly Vly, Most Lake, into Sacramento
Lassen, Ca	8	147.180	107.2	Covers Reno, Spanish Springs, Churchill Co, Gerlach, Black Rock, Susanville (scratchy)
Lyon	5	146.970	100.0	Lahontan (Silver Springs, Fallon)
	1	146.610	123.0	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
	7	147.150	123.0	Mt Rose (Silver Springs, Yerington, Smith Valley)
Mineral				
Modoc, Ca				
Mono, Ca				
Nevada, Ca	7	147.150	123	Mt Rose Covers S Reno, Washoe, Carson, Douglas, S&W Lake Tahoe
Pershing	6	147.030	123	Virginia Pk Mt Rose System
	8	147.180	107.2	Virginia Pk

Pershing	6	147.030	123	Virginia Pk Mt Rose System
	8	147.180	107.2	Virginia Pk
Placer, Ca	10	147.240	123	Heavenly Valley Pk Heavenly Vly, Most Lake, into Sacramento
Plumas, Ca	7	147.150	123	Mt Rose Covers S Reno, Washoe, Carson, Douglas,S&W Lake Tahoe
	9	147.210	100	Peavine Pk
Sierra, Ca	7	147.150	123	Mt Rose Covers S Reno, Washoe, Carson, Douglas,S&W Lake Tahoe
	13	147.330	123	Leviathan Pk, Minden, Carson, Alpine Co
Storey	7	147.150	123	Mt Rose Covers S Reno, Washoe, Carson, Douglas, S&W Lake Tahoe
	9	147.210	100	Peavine Pk
	6	147.030	123	Virginia Pk Mt Rose System
	8	147.180	107.2	Virginia Pk
	1	146.610	123	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
	14	147.390	123	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
		146.850	123	Storey County ARES
Washoe	7	147.150	123	Mt Rose Covers S Reno, Washoe, Carson, Douglas,S&W Lake Tahoe
	9	147.210	100	Peavine Pk
	6	147.030	123	Virginia Pk Mt Rose System
	8	147.180	107.2	Virginia Pk
	1	146.610	123	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
	14	147.390	123	Ophir Pk (Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fallon, Lovelock)
EchoLink and IRLP	3	146.895	100	KA7ZAU Peavine Pk (Node #357948 (#73 to clear #15 to activate #73 when done))
	12	147.300	123.0	Grand Sierra Resort (Node #7873)
DMR		TALK GRPS		SNARS and/or NEVADA

Yellow highlighted are linked repeaters



ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Carson Valley, Tahoe, Reno, Plumas County

Revised 6-29-19

EVENT 2019	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
Nevada Day Parade	10/26/19		NV AREA NW DEC	John Abrott KD7NHC	jabrott77@gmail.com , cell 775 790-1739.
Turkey Trot	11/28/19		WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mtty@gbis.com

NOTE: Plumas ARC always have a need for operators. Go over to some beautiful country and help out the Plumas Amateur Radio Club

RENO AIR RACES

This year we helped with security during the RENO AIR RACES September 8th through the 15th.

Thanks to Bob Miller, WA6MTY; Rick Russell, KF7KEM; Barry Bettman, K6ST; Daniel Moto, KM6EXT; Gordon Milldrum, WB6JAD; Chuck Farnham, WD6CHC; Dick Weisgerber, N7UAL; Filepe Da Silva, KE7OIF; Douglas Edmondo, W7DBE; Ken Juenke, K7KBJ; Tom Seeley, W4FLL; Jim Cordray, WD8OIZ; we provided 228 Hours of volunteer time.

EDIBLE PEDAL BIKE RIDE

On September 15th the Sunrise Rotary Edible Pedal Bike Ride was held at Bowers Mansion

AID STATIONS

Thanks to Bob Miller, WA6MTY; Rick Russell, KF7KEM; Ray Foster, KB7GNA; Richard Nehrbass, AJ7E; Daniel Moto, KM6EXT; Dick Weisgerber, N7UAL; Rick Sweeny, K9THO; Darrell, W6ADZ supported the Aid Stations with Craig AE7I the Rotary Communications Director

SAG WAGONS

Also thanks to Lyon County Search and Rescue Director Patty Polish, KE7JIV providing six Sheriffs vehicles for SAG Wagons with Al Rardin, KI7YHC; Ryan Cooper, KI7AJG; Michael DeTullio, KE7GFS; Jerry Fowler, KC6QNC; Dennis Maginot, KE7JIS; John Abrott, KD7NHC Hams as ride-along communications.

ONE DAY HAM CRAM

My next One Day Ham Cram (Technician or General review) is November 16th, 0800-1300. Everyone MUST register on www.snars.org/oneday.

Bob WA6MTY Emergency Coordinator Washoe County ARES
775 843-5952 wa6mtty@gbis.com

NAME THAT RIG (from page 6)

During much of the 20th century, **Hallicrafters** was probably the dominant (not necessarily the best, though!) name in Amateur receivers. They had receivers in all price points to fit any budget. They also, about 1960, made a fairly popular Novice transmitter, the HT-40. To go with it, they came out with the **SX-140 Amateur band receiver**. Debuting for \$109.00, it was priced similar to the mating transmitter, and was available in kit form for more savings. The SX-140 offered nothing in the way of innovation, used just 5 tubes plus rectifiers, and was fairly simple to operate. It covered 80 through 6 meters like the transmitter. Instead of a conventional BFO for code or SSB reception, the SX-140 utilized an earlier Hallicrafters trick of making one of the IF stages regenerative, meaning it could be set into oscillation. That provided two types of control in one knob: Up to just short of the point of regeneration, the receiver became increasingly selective and sensitive. Once it went into regeneration, the receiver could receive CW and SSB signals, but continuing past that point resulted in loss of both sensitivity and selectivity. With just 5 tubes, this receiver was nothing to brag about, but it did a passable job on the Novice bands. On 6 meters, it was practically useless. But unlike earlier receivers which used the regenerative "BFO" setup, this receiver had a power transformer. No "all-American-5 AC/DC killer" radio. The SX-140 was available into the mid 60s, after which Hallicrafters started down the long slippery slope of many American ham radio manufacturers, and by the early 70s they were history. Their receivers and transmitters, though, live on, being probably the most popular "boatanchor" radios around. Many thousands still make RF noise.

LIFE IN THE PHILIPPINES, PART 2

After arriving in Jaen and settling in, I began trying to contact some local hams, and see about the provisions for licensing here in the Philippines. I tried several local Facebook groups, and searched database listings for operators in my immediate area. I was unable to find any active amateurs in the two local communities of Jaen and San Isidro. However, I was contacted by Roberto Vicencio, DU1VHY. He advised me just to contact PARA (Philippine Amateur Radio Association) for assistance.

So, what am I doing at the moment since I don't have a station set up? I am actually using Voice over IP to access repeaters in Nevada and elsewhere. I loaded EchoLink onto my smartphone, and have used it to talk to many hams. It is quite effective. I have spoken to stations in Fallon, Tonopah, Las Vegas, Gerlach, Reading, CA, San Jose, CA, several East Coast stations, and even the island of Anguilla in the Caribbean. I have tried multiple repeaters in Reno, Sparks, Lake Tahoe and Gardnerville, but have not had any response from operators. Our own SNARS repeater at the Grand Sierra Resort has EchoLink installed, but is not currently utilizing it for connections, so I was unable to use it. That sums up my exploration of amateur radio here so far.

On the topic of life here in the provinces, it is more than satisfying. Living costs are very low, and provide a lot of our own food from the farm. Celebrations take place for any occasion of note. Birthdays are a favorite, with a whole spit-roasted pig or two as the centerpiece.



Cecilia, my asawa (spouse in Tagalog), celebrated her 40th birthday on the 9th of September, with family coming from as far away as the Bataan peninsula.



We have no regular crops in harvest right now, but we did gather some rambutan remaining late on the trees, giving visiting children in the family a chance to gather this delicious fruit.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2019 - 6:00 PM

Chin Chin, 222 Los Altos Pkwy, Sparks

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:00 PM

2. Approval of minutes

- A. Approval of the minutes. July minutes approved, no meeting was held in August
- B. Approval of Agenda. The board approved the agenda

A. President's Report

- a. John discussed NVCON, need to have a review of the By Laws. Suggestion that the board assign a group to manage this effort. Noted that we will use E-voting for the upcoming board member elections. Noted that a call for nominations has to go out in September.

B. Secretary Report

- a. No report but noted that all business related items have been turned in / updated with the Secretary of State's office.

C. Membership Coordinator

- a. No change from what is reported on the SNARS website

D. Treasurer

- a. Financial Report. Bill sent financial info by E-mail to board members. No change from the report on Saturday.
- b. Checking: \$6,946 Savings: \$8,651 Paypal: \$1,092 Conv: \$4,295 Self-Ins: \$6,068 Total: \$27,251

E. Technical Team - Report

- a. Status Report – Work on the Elco link is inprocess.

F. Control Operators / Trustee

- a. Status Report - Control Operator and Trustee. No report this month.

G. Events

- a. NVCON 2019 – Lots of discussion surrounding what worked and what didn't work. Chuck and Jim discussed the issues and how they could be overcome in the future. The board discussed Boomtown versus a new location that might be more cost effective. Board and NVCON committee members are looking into options for hosting the event including different cities. Board notes that SNARS funds will not be used to support the convention.

H. Education Activities

- a. NVQSO – SNARS and Boy Scouts will be at Fort Churchill. JOTA is the 3rd week of October. Discussed helping the young lady who presented on Saturday – lots of interest in setting up stations and obtaining the plan for future youth events. Discussed a SNARS BBQ – probably in 2020 now.

I. Noon Net

- a. We need more Net Control Operators.

J. New Business

- a. 50/50 Raffle – went well. Feeling is that this should continue as planned.

A. Public Comments

- a. None.

B. Adjournment of the board of directors

- a. Next Meeting: October 9th at Chin Chin
- b. Call for Adjournment. Board Adjourned